

Mr. Calabrese,

I am currently a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a CT certified regular/special education teacher. I am writing in opposition to Bill 1105.

This Bill is detrimental to the education of Children with Autism, specifically those requiring Applied Behavior Analysis services. In order to provide ABA services, staff require specific training and certification. This bill would allow others who are state certified utilize ABA services, but have not had direct training ".including, but not limited to, persons employed as psychologists, speech therapists and positions requiring certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in special education"

As both a BCBA and a teacher, I would never allow myself to provide Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, or administer assessment testing on behalf of these certified staff. I cannot comprehend that they should be able to administer ABA services.

I attended a 2-year masters program, received direct supervision, and took a certification exam in order to provide ABA services-if this bill passes it will allow non-trained staff to provide ABA services, which will result in hindering students' with autism's education.

A doctor cannot practice Law, a Lawyer cannot perform surgery, A speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, or Speech Psychologist should NOT be able to provide ABA services to students with autism without a Board Certified Behavior Analyst supervising the case.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

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